

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
15 September 2005 (15.09.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2005/086470 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **H04N 1/41**

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/JP2005/003824

(22) International Filing Date: 1 March 2005 (01.03.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
2004-059232 3 March 2004 (03.03.2004) JP

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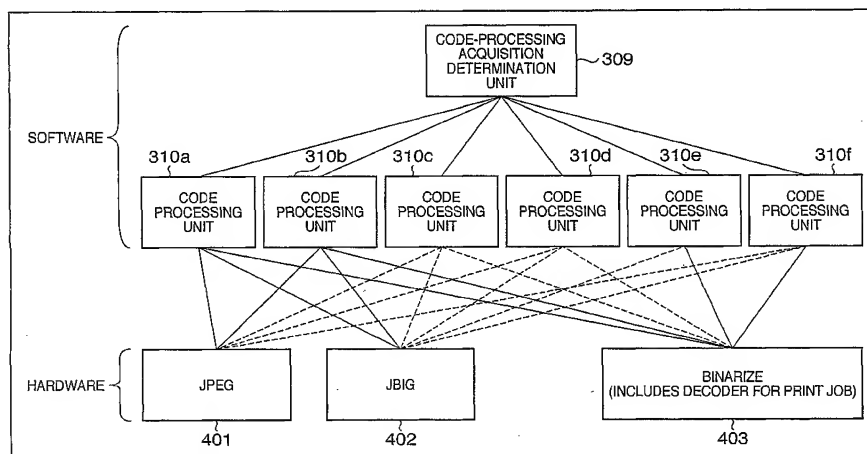
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM,

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(54) Title: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS, METHOD AND PROGRAM



(57) Abstract: Disclosed is an image processing apparatus having a large number of image processing functions, in which resources necessary for code processing units can be suppressed while a large-scale decline in performance is prevented. The apparatus includes a plurality of code processing unit (310) for executing coding and decoding of image data, and a plurality of request-source task units (301 to 308) (print function, scanner function and FAX transceive function). The request-source task units request any ones of the plurality of code converters to perform a code conversion of image data. The number of request-source task units is greater than the number of code converters and a degree of priority has been set for each one. A code-processing acquisition determination unit (309) always assigns the plurality of code converting units to processing requests from request-source task units (301 to 304) having a high priority and, if there is an idle code converting unit among the plurality of code converting units, assigns the code converting unit to a processing request from request-source task unit (305 to 308) having a low priority.

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TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**(84) Designated States** (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO,

**Published:**

— *with international search report*

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*